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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/627,800	07/25/2003	Wing Hon Tsang	PA020017	2667

7590 07/08/2009
JOSEPH S. TRIPOLI
THOMSON LICENSING INC.
2 INDEPENDENCE WAY, Suite 200
P. O. BOX 5312
PRINCETON, NJ 08543-5312

EXAMINER

WENDMAGEGN, GIRUMSEW

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2621

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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07/08/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/627,800	Applicant(s) TSANG ET AL.	
	Examiner GIRUMSEW WENDMAGEGN	Art Unit 2621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 March 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim1-8, 11-15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Han et al (Patent No US 7,050,376) and further in view of Miyashita et al (pub No US 2002/0101790).

Regarding claim1, 11, 13 Han et al (hereinafter Han) teaches a method for determining the format of an optical recording medium comprising one or more sessions, each session comprising a table of contents and one or more tracks, the method comprising the steps of: reading the table of contents of a first session of the recording medium (see figure2 step 201); determining the format of recording medium (see step 202-203) but does not teach checking whether more than one track is present in the first session and determining the format based on the number of tracks in the session. However Han determine the format of the recording medium based on attribute information read from TOC. In TOC attribute information includes number of tracks as indicated by Miyashita et al (see Paragraph 0051). Therefore it is obvious to one ordinary skill in the art to use the number of track as attribute information to determine the format of a disc in Han.

One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been motivated use number of track to determine the disc format because it would make discriminating the disc much effective.

Regarding claim2, 3, 6, see the teaching of Han and Miyashita above. Both do not teach checking whether the recording medium comprising more than one session; checking the number of tracks. However it is old and well known in the art that Table of content have information about the number of session and number of track in each session. Therefore official notice is taken.

Regarding claim4, Han teaches method according to claim 1, where in the checking steps are based on data in the table of contents, which must not be altered to ensure compatibility with standard audio format players (see figure2 step 201 -203).

Regarding claim5, 7, see the teaching of see the teaching of Han and Miyashita above. Both do not teach table of contents comprises address data and pointer data. However it is old and well known in the art table of content (TOC) includes address data and pointer data. Therefore official notice is taken.

One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been motivated to include address data and pointer data in to table of content because it would make accessing the medium much effective.

Regarding claim8 see the teaching of Han and Miyashita above. Both do not teach suppressing sessions other than the first session in case the format of the recording medium is determined to be audio. However, it is old and well known in the art to skip reading of the sessions other than the first session in case the format of the recording medium is determined. Therefore official notice is taken.

One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been motivated to suppress session other than the first session because it would make discriminating disc much effective.

Regarding claim12, Han teaches disc format determination module according to claim 11, wherein it is interposed in the communication between an optical reading unit and a servo controller module (see figure 1).

Regarding claim14, 15, Han teaches the method according to claim1, further comprising the step of: checking whether at least one track is indicated as being an audio track in the table of contents (see figure2 step 201); and determining the format of the recording medium to be audio if the checking step yields in a positive result irrespective of the result of checking whether more than one track is present (see figure2 step 202-203).

Claim9-10 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over (Patent No US 7,050,376) and Miyashita et al (pub No US 2002/0101790) as applied to claim1-8, 11-15 above, and further in view of Hagashi (patent No US 7,154,822).

Art Unit: 2621

Regarding claim 9, 10, see the teaching of Han and Miyashita above. Both do not teach adapting data in the table of contents to values corresponding to the determined format of the recording comprising control bits and address data. However Hagashi teaches control bits and address data (see column 8 line 17-20).

One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been motivated to include control bits and address data in to table of content because it would make accessing the medium much effective.

Therefore, the invention as a whole would have been prima facie obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, absent unexpected results to the contrary.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to GIRUMSEW WENDMAGEGN whose telephone number is (571)270-1118. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-5:00, M-F, all Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tran Thai can be reached on (571)272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2621

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Girumsew Wendmagegn/
Examiner, Art Unit 2621

/JAMIE JO VENT ATALA/

Examiner, Art Unit 2621